

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

NOVEMBER 1, 2011

Scientists at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the International Pacific Research Center of the University of Hawaii have each developed models to track the trajectory of an estimated 5 million to 20 million tons of debris that washed into the Pacific Ocean following Japan's earthquake and tsunami disasters on March 11, 2011. Researchers from the two agencies agree on the general direction and drift rate of the debris. According to the International Pacific Research Center's model, the debris will hit the West Coast, including Alaska, Canada, Oregon and Washington beginning in 2014. Although the debris will likely miss the southern California coast, there may be anomalies that could send some debris astray to Los Angeles County beaches.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the County Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Beaches and Harbors to monitor the movement of the debris in the Pacific Ocean from Japan's March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami, and provide a report to the Board if any debris reaches Los Angeles County operated beaches including plans for removing the debris.

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